

Feb. 11, 2013
HB

March, 2012

Jim,

I do the CWP's for Toole County, I stopped putting the SOC# on the permit about 3 years ago. Our records vender (Sleuth Software) has a spot for it when we enter the data and print out the permit but i just leave it blank.

I have had no complaints about putting it on the application. the reason I did stop using it was because of a e-mail from the AG because someone had pitched a fit in some other county and the AG suggested asking for the citizens preference. I did this for about a month and then in one week issued a couple of permits and the holder said they wanted the SOC on the permit. then a week later they returned and asked if they could have it removed after thinking it over for a bit. I removed it and that was the last two that it ever went on permits. I dont even ask anymore.

I do like it on the application however. with common names it helps with the background check. I have no idea what other counties do as I had to self teach myself the entire process when i got promoted as the fellow before me was not available to instruct me and to be honest I think it was kind of a joke on how he did it.

I take the issue of these permits very seriously. I have no idea how others do this but this is my process.

1. the applicant fills out a application and provides proof of training.
2. I review our local records on the subject to make sure they are not a trouble maker (mental health issues or violence issues in past)
3. I contact the three references and ask the following questions:
 1. how long have you known and how often do you see them, are you a relative or former or present employer or employee.
 2. do you know them to have a PEACEFULL NATURE or have you ever known them to go into rages and act violently at improper times.
 3. have you ever known them to have any MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES or take medication for things like mental health issues.
 4. do you have any concerns that if issued this permit they will use the ability to carry concealed to harass, threaten or any other type of unlawfull purpose
 5. do you know if they are physicaly and mentaly sound enough to handle a firearm safely where by issuing this permit it would not place them of the public in danger. (i had one fellow very old who had a stroke and hands did not work that applied and this question sniffed that out)
 6. if you were in charge of making sure that only safe, honest, good citizens that intended no harm to other lawfull citizens had this permit, would you feel comfortable issuing it and signing your name as the issuer to this person.

if they answer all these questions to my satisfaction i then move on to the computer background check and if they are issued a NIC# with no FBI or SID number I call them in, verify there ID and fingerprint them and then issue the permit. (if ID in doubt i send in prints for search)

our permits have a little blurb at the bottom that gives MCA codes that involve CWP's in MT and I

explain how to go on line and exactly how to look up and learn about reciprocity and prohibited places and such. I also explain about renewing there permit.

Thats our procedure in a nut shell. the SOC is a non-issue to me I think there is another issue we need to look at closer.

I have had several occasions where folks are fast and loose with the residency issue. I just had one last week. I called the AG's office and they advised me to issue the permit and try to "monitor it". difficult at best i think.

so someone turned in an application, as they moved out of state. I approved the permit after investigation but found they had moved as the wife had gotten a new job. there local house is rented out. it is very clear to me this dude has no intention of returning but now has a permit from our county in another state, unless i can PROVE he is no longer a resident i cant revoke the permit. how do I prove this. the section of MCA that coveres residency talks about filing income taxes and living in the state 180 days a year. I have no way to tell this. its just a bad deal.

i had another fellow move to town from Florida for 6 months just to become a resident and get a CWP. He actualy asked me if i could hurry up and issue the permit so he could get moved back to Florida and not have to pay another months rent. of course he indicated he will be back and forth because of work but i have no way to check it out and he does not have to prove it to me.

i think some language that addresses this issue is in line, im concerned that the Florida dude is using our permit for some funky purpose down there and we may be making it easy for him. you can bet that when he comes back in 2 more years to re-new i will be making sure he lives in the county like he is supposed to for at least 6 months

anyways that is my concern, not sure how to go about it but some way to prove they really are residents and that we do not turn into the state that just hands out the permits for 50 bucks. maybe the state revenue dept can cross ref all the issued permits and send out notices to the sheriffs if the holder does not file the following year. im sure that would open a kettle of fish

how about a requirement to require they must provide a current physical address and telephone number. make it there responsibility, and then you could do random checks and if they are not located and you cant verify the address the permit is suspended. i know this is a hot button issue in the legislature so have fun with it but those are my concerns and ideas.

thanks
mike lamey
undersheriff
toole county

Hi Jim,

In response to your questions, Park County does require that the social security number (ss#) be provided on the initial application. We do provide the social security number on the form that is sent to the state Department of Justice (DOJ), but we do NOT put the number on the actual CCW card that the applicant carries in their wallet.

In my seven year tenure, I have not had a citizen complain about providing us with their ss#. In support of retaining the ss# requirement, I have found it extremely helpful and vital to cross reference an individual's ss# with a date of birth (DOB) when more than one individual with the same name (often common names such as Joe Smith) appears when a background check is run. This ensures I have the correct applicant and applicant information.

At this juncture, I am not sure if we need a bill to remove the applicant's ss#. My question is "are

other counties having problems" and if they are "what kind of problems are they having"? Are we talking about identity theft, selling of social security numbers or citizen complaints?

Something that I would like to see implemented in the near future is "file transfer protocol." This is where concealed weapon permits would be transferred automatically from each county to the state. In other words, each county would be able to download their permits and send them directly to the Department of Justice. I was fortunate enough to use this type of process at a Human Resources Company in Denver, Colorado, and it really worked well. Basically, you input and electronically send the information that is needed by the vendor depending on their requirements/needs (i.e. once a week, once a month or two times a month). Of course, the site would have to be well secured, but it would enable the employee to be more efficient and reduce errors, duplication of paperwork, envelopes and postage. This may seem somewhat challenging, but I am hoping that this will be explored.

I hope this helps. If I can be of further assistance please do not hesitate to contact me.

Many thanks,
Colleen Singer
Civil Clerk
Park County Sheriff's Office